BEFORE

THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

DOCKET NO. 2012-325-C

December 17, 2012

IN RE:	Application of Telrite Corp. d/b/a Life Wireless for Designation as an Eligible)	STIPULATION
	Telecommunications Carrier in the State of)	
	South Carolina)	

This Stipulation is made by and among Telrite Corp. d/b/a Life Wireless ("Life Wireless" or the "Company") and the South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff ("ORS") (collectively referred to as the "Parties" or sometimes individually as a "Party").

WHEREAS, on August 30, 2012, Life Wireless filed its Application requesting Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier ("ETC");

WHEREAS, ORS has reviewed the Application and testimony of Company Witness Brian Lisle, which is attached to this Stipulation;

WHEREAS, Life Wireless is only seeking wireless ETC Designation for the limited purpose of offering Lifeline service to qualified households in South Carolina by participation in the Federal Universal Service Low Income Fund ("Federal USF");

WHEREAS, as a result of investigation, ORS has determined that subject to the provisions set forth below, Life Wireless' request for designation as an ETC should be approved contingent upon the Federal Communication Commission's ("FCC") approval of Life Wireless' Compliance Plan ("Compliance Plan"); and

WHEREFORE, in the spirit of compromise, the Parties hereby stipulate and agree to the following terms and conditions:

- 1. Life Wireless is a wireless service reseller offering wireless voice communications and proposing to offer Lifeline services in South Carolina.
- 2. Life Wireless has requested wireless, Lifeline-only ETC designation in South Carolina.
- 3. Life Wireless provides its voice service plans, including a Lifeline plan through the resale of Sprint and Verizon wireless networks.
- 4. Life Wireless has limited its requested Universal Service Fund ("USF") support to the Federal USF low income support program. Life Wireless certifies that all low income USF funding it receives will be used to provide a credit to its Lifeline eligible customers, consistent with 47 C.F.R. 54.403.
- 5. As of the date of this Stipulation, Life Wireless does not have an approved FCC Compliance Plan. Therefore, the Parties agree that prior to the commencement of Lifeline operations in South Carolina, Life Wireless must first obtain FCC approval of its Compliance Plan, and provide its FCC approved Compliance Plan to the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the "Commission") and ORS. Additionally, Life Wireless agrees to comply with all terms and conditions of the approved FCC approved Compliance Plan. Any changes or modifications to the Company's FCC approved Compliance Plan must be filed with the Commission, with a copy to ORS, within five (5) days of approval at the FCC.
- 6. Life Wireless agrees to advertise the availability of Lifeline using media of general distribution.

- 7. Life Wireless agrees to offer Lifeline credits consistent with the rates, terms, and conditions contained in its rate schedules and website and will publish the availability and the pricing of these same offerings on its website or public forum accessible by Lifeline eligible low income consumers.
- 8. Life Wireless agrees to only seek direct low-income support from the USF for those lines provided through the use of the resold services of its underlying carrier(s). Until modified by the Commission, Life Wireless agrees to utilize the means test established by the FCC and set forth in 47 C.F.R. 54.409.
- 9. Life Wireless agrees to notify the Commission of any changes to its Lifeline rates in South Carolina.
- 10. Life Wireless agrees to provide Lifeline customers the federal lifeline credit of \$9.25 per month, consistent with 47 C.F.R. 54.403. In addition, Life Wireless agrees to provide all South Carolina Lifeline customers with a company funded \$3.50 credit. The Company may fulfill this commitment by offering a South Carolina Lifeline plan that provides 250 minutes of voice only service without rollover at a monthly cost of \$0.00 in addition to Lifeline optional plans outlined in the approved Compliance Plan. Life Wireless will also offer a non-Lifeline plan that provides 250 minutes of voice only without rollover at \$12.75 per month. In the event the Commission, the FCC, or a court of competent jurisdiction issues a decision that a credit of \$3.50 is not required to be provided by ETCs to South Carolina Lifeline customers, the parties agree that this Agreement will be modified to reflect that ruling.
- 11. Life Wireless agrees to allow qualifying low-income consumers to apply Lifeline discounts (federal and state) to any residential service plan that includes voice telephony service, including bundled packages of voice and data services; and plans that include optional calling

features such as, but not limited to, caller identification, call waiting, voicemail, and three-way calling. ETCs may also permit qualifying low-income consumers to apply their Lifeline discount to family shared calling plans.

- 12. Life Wireless agrees that it will abide by all advertising, reporting and verification requirements established by the FCC and the Commission.
- 13. Life Wireless agrees that it will not seek reimbursement from the Federal USF for resold services where the Company receives the Lifeline credits through an underlying carrier.
- 14. Life Wireless agrees to file all reports requested by ORS or the Commission, including but not limited to: the "Telecommunications Company Annual Report," the "Authorized Utility Representative Form," the "Gross Receipts Form," and the "USF Worksheet." All of which may be found on the ORS website at www.regulatorystaff.sc.gov in the telecommunications forms section.
- 15. If the designations sought herein are granted, Life Wireless agrees to pay the annual gross receipts assessment in accordance with S.C. Code Ann. § 58-3-100 and S.C. Code Ann. § 58-4-60. Life Wireless agrees to file with the ORS a certified true copy of its Form 497 filed with the Universal Service Administrative Company ("USAC"), including revisions thereto, no later than 5 calendar days after the Form or revision is filed with USAC.
- 16. Life Wireless agrees to offer a toll blocking and/or limitation option if toll is included with Life Wireless Lifeline service.
- 17. Life Wireless agrees that the Company will not seek reimbursement for toll limitation services. The Company agrees to provide toll block at no charge to customers seeking the service. Consistent with this provision, the Company agrees to block dialing when a Lifeline

customer is roaming and such blocking may only be over-ridden by specific action by the customer on a per call basis.

- 18. Life Wireless agrees to waive any and all activation fees or roaming charges for Lifeline customers.
- 19. Life Wireless agrees to implement or to participate in a program for initial certification and annual verification that insures that an eligible Lifeline customer only receives one Lifeline credit per residential address and must conform with its Compliance Plan on file with the FCC and 47 C.F.R. 54-410.
- 20. Life Wireless agrees to provide E911 compliant handsets to new Lifeline customers and replace any non-compliant handsets for its existing customers who are approved as Lifeline customers at no charge.
- 21. If the designations sought herein are granted, Life Wireless will be supporting Universal Service in South Carolina based on its total South Carolina retail end user revenues, and must submit all documentation and Universal Service fees required by South Carolina.
- 22. Life Wireless agrees to submit a quarterly report to ORS demonstrating the number of Lifeline customers who have been deactivated by Life Wireless during the quarter due to: (1) non-payment on their customer account during two consecutive 30-day periods; (2) customer failure to comply with or pass the annual verification requirement; or (3) voluntary customer-requested deactivation.
- 23. Life Wireless agrees that ORS may examine the Company's records and documentation to ensure that the universal service support the Company receives is being used for the purpose for which it was intended. Life Wireless is required to provide such records and documentation to ORS upon request. Life Wireless agrees that if it fails to fulfill the

requirements of the Act, the Commission's rules, or the terms of this agreement after it begins receiving universal service support, the Commission or ORS may exercise its authority to revoke such petitioner's ETC designation.

- 24. Life Wireless shall comply with all applicable state and federal laws, rules, and regulations regarding ETC designation and reporting requirements. More specifically, Life Wireless agrees to abide by the Commission regulations regarding designation of an ETC found in 26 S.C. Code Ann. Reg. 103-690 as well as requirements set out by the FCC for ETC designation and for participation in the Lifeline program (e.g. FCC Regulation Subpart E Universal Service Support for Low-Income Consumers).
- 25. The Parties represent that the terms of this Stipulation are based upon full and accurate information known as of the date this Stipulation is executed. If, after execution, either Party is made aware of information that conflicts, nullifies, or is otherwise materially different than that information upon which this Stipulation is based, either Party may withdraw from the Stipulation with written notice to the other Party.
- 26. Subject to the provisions set forth herein, ORS does not oppose the Application of Life Wireless for designation as an eligible telecommunications carrier.
- 27. ORS is charged by law with the duty to represent the public interest of South Carolina pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. § 58-4-10(B) (Supp. 2011). S.C. Code Ann. § 58-4-10(B)(1) through (3) read in part as follows:
 - ... 'public interest' means a balancing of the following:
 - (1) concerns of the using and consuming public with respect to public utility services, regardless of the class of customer;
 - (2) economic development and job attraction and retention in South Carolina; and

(3) preservation of the financial integrity of the State's public utilities and continued investment in and maintenance of utility facilities so as to provide reliable and high quality utility services.

ORS believes the Stipulation reached among the Parties serves the public interest as defined above.

- 28. The Parties agree to advocate that the Commission accept and approve this Stipulation in its entirety as a fair, reasonable and full resolution of all issues in the above-captioned proceeding and that the Commission take no action inconsistent with its adoption. The Parties further agree to cooperate in good faith with one another in recommending to the Commission that this Stipulation be accepted and approved by the Commission. The Parties agree to use reasonable efforts to defend and support any Commission order issued approving this Stipulation and the terms and conditions contained herein.
- 29. The Parties represent that the terms of this Stipulation are based upon full and accurate information known as of the date this Stipulation is executed. If, after execution, either Party is made aware of information that conflicts with, nullifies, or is otherwise materially different than that information upon which this Stipulation is based, either Party may withdraw from the Stipulation with written notice to the other Party.
- 30. The Parties agree that signing this Stipulation will not constrain, inhibit, impair or prejudice their arguments or positions held in other collateral proceedings, nor will it constitute a precedent or evidence of acceptable practice in future proceedings. If the Commission declines to approve the Stipulation in its entirety, then any Party desiring to do so may withdraw from the Stipulation in its entirety without penalty or obligation.
 - 31. This Stipulation shall be interpreted according to South Carolina law.

32. The above terms and conditions fully represent the agreement of the Parties hereto. Therefore, each Party acknowledges its consent and agreement to this Stipulation by affixing its signature or by authorizing counsel to affix his or her signature to this document where indicated below. Counsel's signature represents his or her representation that his or her client has authorized the execution of the agreement. Facsimile signatures and email signatures shall be as effective as original signatures to bind any party. This document may be signed in counterparts, with the original signature pages combined with the body of the document constituting an original and provable copy of this Stipulation. The Parties agree that in the event any Party should fail to indicate its consent to this Stipulation and the terms contained herein, then this Stipulation shall be null and void and will not be binding on any Party.

[PARTY SIGNATURES TO FOLLOW ON SEPARATE PAGES]

Representing the South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff

Courtney Dare Edwards, Esquire

South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff

1401 Main Street, Suite 900

Columbia, South Carolina 29201

Fax:

Tel.: (803) 737-8440

(803) 737-0895 Email: cedwards@regstaff.sc.gov Representing Telrite Corp. d/b/a Life Wireless

Charles L.A. Terreni, Esquire

Terreni Law Firm, LLC

1508 Lady Street

Columbia, South Carolina 29201

Tel.: (803) 771-7228 Fax: (803) 771-8778

Email: charles.terreni@terrenilaw.com